



#04-042

Contact: Michael Mayor  
Public Information Office  
Caltrans – (530) 225-3071

California Department of Transportation  
District 2, Redding  
Brian Crane, District Director

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Highway Info – 1-800-427-7623  
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo>

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Caltrans and the City of Redding to Honor Fallen Workers

REDDING -- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the City of Redding will recognize those employees who lost their lives in the work zone and a Workers Memorial service to be held Tuesday, April 6, 2004 beginning at 10 a.m. in the circle at City Hall, 777 Cypress Avenue, Redding. Vice Mayor Mary Leas Stegall will speak, as well as Caltrans Deputy District Director Russ Wenham and representatives from local legislative offices. A short ceremony honoring the fallen workers will be held and work equipment from the City of Redding and Caltrans will be on display.

In Caltrans District 2, which consists of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Shasta, Trinity and parts of Butte and Sierra counties, a total of nine workers lives have been lost on the job and in the work zone since 1924.

"One of the biggest hazards is from motorists who do not exercise caution while driving where highway workers are present," said Russ Wenham, Caltrans Deputy District Director for Maintenance and Operations in District 2. "Drivers need to pay close attention to the traffic around them, as well as the many roadway workers who perform their jobs extremely close to traffic," he added.

Caltrans and the City of Redding want you and our workers to return home safely to their families. Remember the following tips while driving in work zones:

- Do not speed in work zones; obey the posted speed limits. (Fines are doubled in work zones)
- Stay Alert! Expect the unexpected.
- Watch for workers; drive with caution.
- Don't change lanes unnecessarily.

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- Avoid using mobile phones while driving in work zones.
- Turn on headlights so that workers and other drivers can see you.
- Be especially alert at night while driving in work zones.
- Expect delays, especially during peak travel times.
- Allow ample space between you and the car in front of you.
- Anticipate lane shifts, and merge when directed to do so.
- Be Patient!

The Workers Memorial is being held during National Work Zone Safety Week, April 4 – 10, 2004. The campaign's goal is to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities in roadway work zones.

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### ***SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE***

**NOTE:** An electronic version of the news release and electronic versions of the clipart are available on the internet at the following web address:

[http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news\\_releases.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm)

